

Serial No.: 10/541,823
Atty. Docket No.: P70681US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-36. (canceled).

37. (Currently Amended) An ostomy appliance body side member comprising an adhesive wafer having an inner rim defining a hole for accommodating a stoma, a first moisture-absorbing adhesive surface for securing the appliance to a user's skin and a second surface covered with a carrier sheet, a portion of the adhesive wafer surrounding the stoma having balanced plastic and elastic properties, a central part of the second surface of said wafer surrounding said stoma-accommodating hole being provided with a hydrophobic adhesive layer thereon that is compatible with the first adhesive surface and that has an adhesive upper surface that allows the hole to be enlarged by rolling up the inner rim to form a torus, said torus being locked in said rolled up position by adhesion between the first adhesive surface and said adhesive upper surface of the hydrophobic adhesive layer as provided on said second surface.

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38. (Canceled).

39. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 37, wherein the adhesive wafer is made from an adhesive including hydrocolloids.

40. (Currently Amended) The body side member as claimed in claim 37, wherein the carrier sheet is absent on said central part of the second surface of said wafer surrounding the stoma and having said hydrophobic adhesive layer thereon.

41. (Currently Amended) The body side member according to claim 40 wherein the hydrophobic adhesive layer stretches under at least a portion of the carrier sheet.

42. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 37 wherein a release liner protects the first adhesive surface.

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43. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 37, wherein the carrier sheet extends to the central part of the wafer.

44. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 43, wherein the carrier sheet on the central part of the second surface of the adhesive wafer surrounding the stoma is provided with a weakening pattern.

45. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 37, wherein the part of the adhesive wafer surrounding the stoma is formed as an exchangeable sealing member disposed in the hole of the wafer and has a hole for accommodating a stoma.

46. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 37, further comprising a coupling component for releasable attachment of a receiving bag.

47. (Previously Presented) The body side member as claimed in claim 46, wherein said coupling component includes matching coupling rings.

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48. (Currently Amended) An ostomy sealing member in the form of a mouldable mass or ring having balanced plastic and elastic properties comprising a first adhesive surface to adhere to the skin and to seal around a stoma and between the stoma and an ostomy appliance adapted to receive secretions from the stoma, a second surface facing away from the user and an inner rim defining a hole for accommodating a the stoma, said sealing member configured to allow enlargement of said stoma-accommodating hole by rolling up the inner rim of the hole to form a torus before placing the sealing member around the stoma, a part of the second surface surrounding the hole having a separate hydrophobic adhesive layer thereon which is different from and compatible with the first adhesive surface and that has an adhesive upper surface to lock the torus in said rolled up position by adhesion between the first adhesive surface and said adhesive upper surface of the hydrophobic adhesive layer even when said first adhesive surface is exposed to moisture.

49. (Previously Presented) The sealing member as claimed in claim 48, wherein the sealing member is made from an adhesive including hydrocolloids.

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50. (Currently Amended) A method of applying an ostomy appliance body side member having an adhesive wafer with an inner rim that defines a hole for accommodating a stoma, a first adhesive surface for securing the appliance to an ostomate's abdomen ~~a user's skin~~ and a second surface covered with a carrier sheet, a portion of the adhesive wafer surrounding the stoma having balanced plastic and elastic properties, a central part of the second surface of said adhesive wafer surrounding said stoma-accommodating hole being provided with a separate hydrophobic adhesive layer compatible with the first adhesive surface of the adhesive wafer and having an adhesive upper surface covered by a release liner, the method comprising:

removing said release liner from said adhesive upper surface of the hydrophobic adhesive layer;

enlarging the hole to adapt to the size of the stoma by rolling the inner rim of the hole away from the stoma, either inwardly or outwardly with respect to the ostomate's abdomen, to form a torus;

locking the torus to the second surface in its rolled position by contact between the hydrophobic adhesive layer and the first adhesive surface; and

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aligning the stoma and the stoma-accommodating hole of the ostomy appliance body side member and placing the body side member on the abdomen of the ostomate with the stoma projecting into the hole.

51. (Currently Amended) A method of applying a separately exchangeable ostomy sealing member in a body side member, said sealing member having balanced plastic and elastic properties and including an inner rim that defines a first hole for accommodating a stoma, a first moisture-absorbing adhesive surface adapted for securing the sealing member to an ostomate's abdomen ~~a user's skin~~ and for receiving secretions from the stoma, and a second surface facing away from the user, a central part of the second surface of said sealing member surrounding said first hole being provided with a hydrophobic adhesive layer compatible with the first adhesive surface of the adhesive wafer and having an adhesive upper surface covered by a release liner, the method comprising:

a) locating the stoma and aligning the stoma and a second stoma-accommodating hole of the body side member and placing the body side member on the abdomen of the ostomate with the stoma projecting into the second hole;

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b) removing the release liner from said adhesive upper surface of the hydrophobic adhesive layer;

[[b)]] c) enlarging the first hole of the sealing member by rolling the inner rim of the hole of the sealing member away from the stoma, either inwardly or outwardly with respect to the ostomate's abdomen, to form a torus;

[[c)]] d) adapting the first hole of the sealing member to the size of the stoma;

[[d)]] e) locking the torus in its rolled position by contact between the first adhesive surface and the hydrophobic adhesive layer on said second surface of the sealing member;

[[e)]] f) aligning the stoma and the second hole of the ostomy sealing member; and

[[f)]] g) placing the sealing member in the second hole of the body side member on the abdomen of the ostomate with the stoma projecting into the first hole.

52. (New) The body side member as claimed in claim 37 wherein a release liner protects the adhesive upper surface of said hydrophobic adhesive layer and is removed prior to forming said torus.

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53. (New) The body side member as claimed in claim 52 wherein said release liner is embodied as a separator sheet that is covered by said carrier sheet, said carrier sheet having a weakening zone defining a central part of said carrier sheet that is positioned over said separator sheet and that can be removed separately while a remainder of said carrier sheet including an inner rim thereof remains in place to allow the separator sheet to be removed to expose the adhesive upper surface of said hydrophobic adhesive layer.

54. (New) The body side member as claimed in claim 53 wherein an outer edge of said separator sheet extends under the inner rim of said carrier sheet, said separator sheet including a weakening zone that defines a central part of said separator sheet that can be removed separately while said separator sheet outer edge remains in place under said carrier sheet inner rim.

55. (New) The body side member as claimed in claim 54 wherein said weakening zones are defined by cuts in said sheets.

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56. (New) The ostomy sealing member as claimed in claim 48 wherein a release liner protects the adhesive upper surface of said hydrophobic adhesive layer and is removed prior to forming said torus.

57. (New) The ostomy sealing member as claimed in claim 56 wherein said release liner is embodied as a separator sheet that is covered by said carrier sheet, said carrier sheet having a weakening zone defining a central part of said carrier sheet that is positioned over said separator sheet and that can be removed separately while a remainder of said carrier sheet including an inner rim thereof remains in place to allow the separator sheet to be removed to expose the adhesive upper surface of said hydrophobic adhesive layer.

58. (New) The ostomy sealing member as claimed in claim 57 wherein an outer edge of said separator sheet extends under the inner rim of said carrier sheet, said separator sheet including a weakening zone that defines a central part of said separator sheet that can be removed separately while said separator sheet outer edge remains in place under said carrier sheet inner rim.

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59. (New) The ostomy sealing member as claimed in claim 58 wherein said weakening zones are defined by cuts in said sheets.